

Snowplow Art



The Big Picture

- Once a year, the Public Works Department works with the Bethel and 4J school districts to pick one elementary school from each district to participate in a snowplow art event (more information on snowplow art projects at www.eugene-or.gov/SnowPlowArt).
- Each district determines what process it uses to select an appropriate school and notifies the Eugene Public Works Department in mid-April of the school selected to participate in the art project.
- After meeting with the school principals, Public Works drops off an 11-foot-wide plow blade at a location to be determined by the school or the district. Students at the school then paint the blade, using paint and brushes supplied by Public Works.
- When the blade has been painted, but no later than early May, the school contacts Public Works to pick up the blade and bring it to the Public Works Yard at 1820 Roosevelt Blvd.
- The painted blades are displayed at Public Works Day (the third Thursday in May). Public Works also publicizes the artwork in the City Council newsletter and through community news and press releases. The painted blades are used for normal public works operations, including snow removal. Each year the artwork is “recycled” to provide a fresh canvas for the next art project.

Art Project Criteria

Eligibility:

- One elementary school each in the 4j and Bethel school districts
- Participating schools will be selected by the school districts
- Districts will notify Eugene Public Works (see contact information, below) of the participating schools
- Schools will provide simple sketch of planned artwork to Public Works for review and approval

Artwork:

- Must include school name
- Should relate to winter in some way
- May include mascot name and/or symbol
- Plow face is 11 feet wide and 4 feet tall (see photo)
- All painting to be completed by early May.



Paint and Supplies:

- Eugene Public Works will provide each school up to 4 quarts of paint of standard paint colors. Public Works will also provide each school up to 12 paint brushes.
- Paint must be non-toxic, water-based latex suitable for outdoor application.
- Clean-up is the school’s responsibility.
- Public Works may apply a clear-coat finish after the painting is completed. No guarantees are made regarding the durability of the painting, particularly after the plows are put into active use.

Use of the Painted Plows

- All artwork painted on the blades will become the property of the City of Eugene.
- The plows will be displayed at Public Works Day. Public Works will work with each school to have a representative at Public Works Day or will gather information for a poster to further identify and explain the specific school artwork.
- The City also may publicize the school artwork in its City Council newsletter, on the City’s web site, and in other community venues including news releases.

Contact and More Information

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